

Monday 7 April 2008

Newsletter 10/08

Dear parents

Community Weekend Project

A wonderful success!

What an absolutely amazing weekend we've just experienced! About two hundred people were involved in helping to transform our school.

Achievements included:

- *New school sign out front.*
- *New paths and gardens out front. Old fence taken down. (New fence going up over holidays).*
- *Concrete seating out front, plus many new shrubs/garden areas around all paths.*
- *New garden outside Rooms 18/19.*
- *Pathway steps put in behind Room 19 leading to native tree area.*
- *Dozens more native shrubs put in native tree area.*
- *Concrete cricket pitch installed.*
- *Eastern boundary fence water blasted and stained.*
- *Pool fence exterior painted all sides (two sides with murals, designed by the children).*
- *Pool area landscaped.*
- *Seating along eastern side of pool. Also BBQ tables, trellis work, planter boxes, planting.*
- *Pool fence interior painted (3 coats in one day).*
- *Interior of pool sheds painted.*

So many people were involved, and so many businesses contributed with extremely generous donations, that it's hard to know where to begin when it comes to passing on the gratitude of our school.

But first and foremost has to be **Botany Life Community Church**. The majority of people helping over the weekend are church members who have no connection with our school, but gave up their time and expertise to give something to our community. Truly amazing, truly "Living life with passion and purpose".

Very special thanks indeed go to the organiser of the whole event, **Mark van Wijk**. The enormity of your contribution is difficult to measure Mark. **THANK YOU**.

Thank you to the many parents and staff members who were able to come along at some stage over the weekend and help with our "extreme makeover"! **WELL DONE EVERYBODY**.

Jump Rope for Heart

Our school is participating in a Jump Rope 'Jump Off' day. This year we have decided not to collect sponsors and just participate for fun. Our 'Jump Off' day is **Tuesday 15th April** (Saving day if wet Wednesday 16th April). Between 11.00 and 12.30 the whole school will be participating in a circuit of activities involving skipping.

Children will need to bring a t-shirt (preferably in their house team colour), shorts and appropriate footwear i.e. sand-shoes. An extra drink will be needed. Children can bring their own skipping ropes to use if they wish. Please make sure these are named. You are welcome to come along and watch the fun.

(Amy Muir School Co-ordinator for Jump Rope)

PTA News

Meeting TONIGHT!

Please join us at our April meeting, being held **tonight** in the school library at 7.30pm. We welcome new faces and fresh ideas!

Healthy Apple Fundraising

Just a reminder that orders need to be collected on Thursday afternoons, between 2.45pm and 3.15pm, from the hall. Orders not collected during this time will not be available for collection until the following week. The remaining 3 deliveries in this cycle will be 10th April, 17th April and 8th May. In order to make a decision on whether to commit to a second cycle, we would like your feedback on how you have enjoyed your apples and whether you would order again. We would also be interested in hearing from those who did not order this cycle, but might like to order next time. Please email your feedback asap to Maree Biland (biland@xtra.co.nz) or phone 5376037.

2008/09 Entertainment Books... are coming! Please remember to tell family and friends we are selling Entertainment Books again this year, and we'd love them to order through us. More information will be coming home soon.

Staffing

We are very sorry indeed to be losing **Yvonne Taft** from our teaching line-up at the end of this term. Yvonne started here early in 2005 in a part time capacity, then moved to a full time role, teaching Year 3s in firstly Room 17, and latterly Room 19. We are all going to miss the many positive qualities she brings both to teaching, and as a highly valued staff member. **Best wishes Yvonne.**

Special Terrific Persons Awards

Congratulations to the following little stars, who will receive their certificates at Wednesday afternoon's assembly (2.15pm start): **Rashaad Abdulla, Samantha Cooper, Luke Kirk, Michael Li, Victor Li, Seif Malla, Ashleigh Moat, Sally Park, Colt Salmond, Amy Savory, Mason Stanners, Sarah Swears, Rui Lin Zhang, Aisha McKay, Teagan Hack, Tapea Duckworth** and **Sian Haddon.**

School Closing

This term ends on **Friday 18 April**. The second term begins on **Monday 5th May**.

School Lunches

Some reminders:

- There are no bought lunches on Tuesdays
- Orders need to be in 8.55am at the latest please, but we do like children to take their orders to the hall as soon as they arrive at school, rather than waiting for the bell
- Please clearly indicate child's name and room number

School Banking

We have lots of children who have opened accounts, but not many who are remembering that banking day is Thursday!

Regards

Mr T

Kiwikidz are running a holiday programme again, right here at school, from 21 April to 2 May. Copies of the programme are available from the school office, or contact Winnie on 2729961 or 021 1123 749.